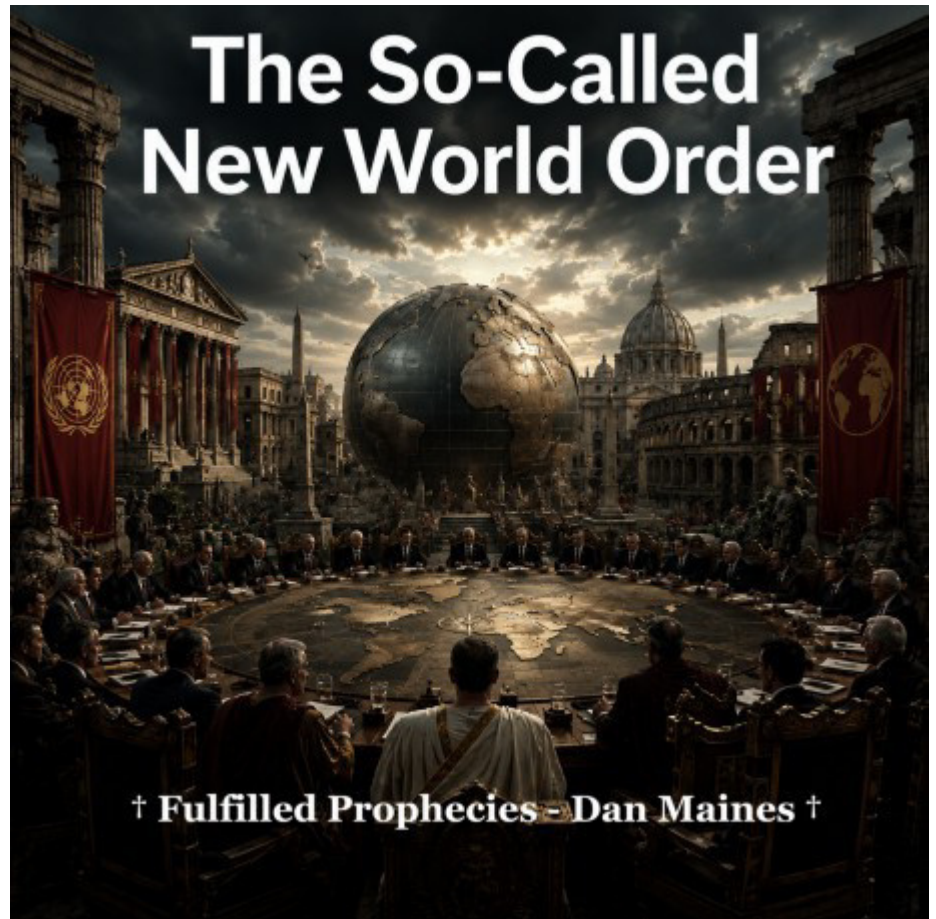


Fulfilled Prophecies

[Home](#) > [S](#) > [Share on Facebook](#)

[FACEBOOK LINK](#)

The So-Called New World Order



By Dan Maines

The So-Called New World Order

Introduction

† The phrase New World Order has become one of the most powerful fear-producing expressions in modern Christianity. For decades, Christians have been told that a coming world government will fulfill Bible prophecy, produce the Antichrist, establish the mark of the beast, trigger the Great Tribulation, and prepare the world for the physical return of Jesus Christ.

† But there's an important question that must be asked. Where does the Bible actually say New World Order?

† It doesn't. The phrase New World Order doesn't appear anywhere in Scripture.

† Governments can become corrupt. Nations can cooperate. Political leaders can seek greater power. Financial systems can become increasingly interconnected. None of those realities automatically make them fulfillments of Bible prophecy.

† The problem begins when modern political events are placed into prophetic passages while the inspired time statements, original audience, and historical setting of those passages are ignored.

† Jesus didn't tell Christians living thousands of years later to recognize the fulfillment of His Olivet prophecy. He spoke directly to His first-century disciples and placed the fulfillment within their generation (Matthew 24:3, 34).

† Revelation didn't tell its original readers that its prophecies concerned events thousands of years in their future. They were told that the things revealed must shortly come to pass and that the time was at hand (Revelation 1:1-3).

† Fulfilled prophecy doesn't teach us to ignore modern governments. It teaches us not to turn every modern government, war, treaty, economic system, technological development, or political movement into an unfulfilled Bible prophecy.

Matthew 24:33-34

so you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door. Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

† Jesus identified the generation that would see all these things. He didn't say that generation would begin thousands of years later. He said this generation (Matthew 24:34).

† The disciples who heard Jesus were given observable signs because the judgment concerned their world and their generation (Matthew 24:15-16, 33).

† When modern teachers move Matthew 24 into our century, they must move the time statement with it. The text doesn't permit separating the predicted events from the generation

Jesus identified (Matthew 24:33-34).

Luke 21:20-22

"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near. Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are inside the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; because these are days of punishment, so that all things which have been written will be fulfilled.

† Jesus gave the location of the coming crisis. Jerusalem would be surrounded by armies. He told people in Judea to flee (Luke 21:20-21).

† This wasn't a prediction about a twenty-first-century global government. It concerned Jerusalem, Judea, and the approaching days of vengeance (Luke 21:20-22).

† Jesus made an extraordinary statement, these were the days in which all things written concerning that judgment would be fulfilled. That doesn't leave the prophecy waiting for a modern New World Order (Luke 21:22).

Revelation 1:1-3

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John, who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, everything that he saw. Blessed is the one who reads, and those who hear the words of the prophecy and keep the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

† Revelation begins by establishing its own time frame. The events must shortly come to pass, and the time was at hand (Revelation 1:1, 3).

† We don't have the authority to change shortly into thousands of years or at hand into a distant age (Revelation 1:1-3).

† The original churches receiving Revelation were expected to hear, understand, and keep its message because the prophetic crisis concerned them (Revelation 1:3-4).

† Reading every modern international organization, banking

system, computer network, or political alliance back into Revelation ignores the time frame that Revelation itself provides (Revelation 1:1-3).

Revelation 13:16-18

And he causes all, the small and the great, the rich and the poor, and the free and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads, and he decrees that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.

† This passage is frequently removed from its first-century setting and connected to whatever technology happens to frighten people at the time.

† Over the years, people have identified the mark with Social Security numbers, barcodes, credit cards, computer chips, digital identification, vaccines, biometric systems, and digital currency. The proposed fulfillment keeps changing because the interpretation begins with current events instead of the original context.

† John told his original readers to calculate the number. That instruction had meaning for the people receiving Revelation (Revelation 13:18).

† The beast belonged to Revelation's own prophetic setting. We shouldn't turn every new method of identification or commerce into the mark of the beast simply because technology changes (Revelation 13:16-18).

1 John 2:18

Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.

† John didn't tell his readers that the Antichrist would appear thousands of years later. He said many antichrists had already arisen (1 John 2:18).

† John even used their presence as evidence that it was already the last hour (1 John 2:18).

† The New Testament never presents one future twenty-first-century political ruler called the Antichrist who takes control of a New World Order. John defines antichrist in relation to denying Christ (1 John 2:22; 4:3; 2 John 7).

† Combining the beast, the man of sin, and John's antichrists into one future world dictator may create an impressive prophecy chart, but Scripture itself doesn't call those figures one individual named the Antichrist.

Daniel 2:44

And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever.

† Daniel didn't predict that God's kingdom would wait until after a future New World Order. God's kingdom was established in the historical setting identified by Daniel's prophecy (Daniel 2:31-44).

† Jesus announced that the kingdom of God had drawn near, and He connected its arrival with His own ministry and authority (Matthew 4:17; 12:28).

† The kingdom isn't fragile. It doesn't survive only when earthly governments allow it to survive. Daniel said God's kingdom would never be destroyed (Daniel 2:44).

† Political systems rise and fall, but Christ's kingdom isn't waiting for the final political system before it can become victorious (Daniel 2:44).

Colossians 1:13

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

† Paul didn't tell Christians that they were waiting thousands of years to enter Christ's kingdom. He said they had already been transferred into it (Colossians 1:13).

† The kingdom of Christ was already a present spiritual reality

for believers in the first century (Colossians 1:12-13).

† That means Christians shouldn't live as though Christ's kingdom is waiting helplessly for the political kingdoms of this world to finish some prophetic timetable.

Hebrews 12:28

Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let's show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe;

† The writer of Hebrews described believers as receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken (Hebrews 12:28).

† Governments can be shaken. Economies can be shaken. Nations can be shaken. Empires can collapse. Christ's kingdom cannot be shaken (Hebrews 12:26-28).

† This completely changes the Christian perspective. Our hope isn't that human governments will never become corrupt. Our hope is that no human government can destroy the kingdom we've received.

Revelation 22:6-7

And he said to me, "These words are faithful and true"; and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show His bond-servants the things which must soon take place. "And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

† Revelation ends with the same urgency with which it begins. The things revealed must shortly come to pass (Revelation 22:6).

† Jesus said He was coming quickly. Those words were addressed to the original recipients of Revelation, not secretly redirected to Christians thousands of years later (Revelation 22:6-7).

† If shortly meant shortly at the beginning of Revelation, it still meant shortly at the end. The book provides its own inspired time frame (Revelation 1:1-3; 22:6-7).

Revelation 22:10

And he said to me, Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near.

† Daniel was told to seal his prophecy because its fulfillment wasn't near to him, but John was specifically told not to seal Revelation because the time was at hand (Daniel 12:4, 9; Revelation 22:10).

† That contrast matters. If Revelation primarily concerned events more than two thousand years later, telling John not to seal the book because the time was at hand would lose its natural meaning.

† We shouldn't take a prophecy John was forbidden to seal because fulfillment was near and then move its fulfillment into our century (Revelation 22:10).

Historical References

† Josephus, in *The Wars of the Jews*, described the Roman siege of Jerusalem, the internal factions within the city, famine, violence, and the destruction that culminated in AD 70. His account provides important historical background for understanding the first-century judgment upon Jerusalem.

† Tacitus, in *The Histories*, Book 5, also recorded the Roman conflict with Jerusalem and the siege under Titus. His Roman perspective independently confirms the historical setting of the Jewish-Roman war.

† Eusebius, in *Ecclesiastical History*, Book 3, Chapter 5, reported the tradition that believers in Jerusalem departed before the war and went to Pella. This is historically significant when compared with Jesus' warning for those in Judea to flee when the approaching judgment became recognizable (Luke 21:20-21).

† These historical witnesses direct our attention toward the world of the first century, not toward a political system supposedly forming thousands of years afterward.

How It Applies To Us Today

† We don't need to deny that powerful people sometimes seek

more political, economic, or social control. Scripture never requires Christians to pretend governments can't become corrupt.

† We can examine modern political movements on their own merits without calling them fulfilled or unfulfilled Bible prophecy.

† If governments violate justice, Christians can recognize it as wrong without claiming Revelation 13 is happening again.

† If nations create international organizations, that doesn't automatically make those organizations the beast.

† If financial systems become digital, that doesn't automatically make digital currency the mark of the beast.

† If identification systems become more advanced, that doesn't automatically make them 666.

† If a political leader becomes powerful, that doesn't automatically make that person the Antichrist.

† We must stop allowing every generation to rewrite Bible prophecy around its own headlines.

† Christians during World War I thought they were watching the end. Christians during World War II identified political leaders with prophetic figures. The Cold War produced another generation of prophecy predictions. The European Union, barcodes, credit cards, computers, the internet, implanted chips, vaccines, artificial intelligence, biometric identification, and digital currencies have all been placed into end-times scenarios.

† The technology changes, the political figures change, and the predictions change, but the inspired time statements of Scripture haven't changed.

† Our responsibility is to interpret Scripture through Scripture, respecting its original audience, historical setting, and stated time frame.

† There's no reason for Christians to live terrified of a New World Order as though some future political organization can overthrow what Jesus Christ accomplished.

† Christ is King now. His kingdom is here now. His covenant is established. His people have access to God through Him, and His kingdom cannot be shaken (Hebrews 12:22-28).

† The world may continue experiencing wars, political corruption, oppression, economic problems, and powerful governments. Those things are serious human problems, but they aren't proof that first-century prophecy has suddenly become unfulfilled again.

† Don't trade the fear of one end-times system for the fear of another. Our confidence isn't in earthly governments behaving perfectly. Our confidence is in Jesus Christ and His everlasting kingdom.

Q & A Appendix

Q: Is there going to be a New World Order?

A: There may be attempts at greater international political, economic, or technological cooperation and control. Scripture doesn't promise that governments will always remain free or righteous. But there's no biblical basis for automatically identifying a modern global political system as the fulfillment of Revelation's first-century prophecy (Revelation 1:1-3; 22:6, 10).

Q: Does a one-world government have to exist before Jesus returns?

A: No. Scripture never states that a future New World Order must arise before a future physical return of Christ. Jesus placed the fulfillment of His judgment prophecy within His own generation (Matthew 24:33-34).

Q: Is the New World Order the beast of Revelation?

A: No biblical passage says that. Revelation's original readers were told that its events must shortly come to pass and that the time was at hand (Revelation 1:1-3). We shouldn't ignore those inspired time statements and move the beast thousands of years into the future.

Q: Could digital currency become the mark of the beast?

A: A government could potentially misuse any financial system, but that doesn't make it the mark of Revelation 13. John's original readers were told about the beast and were instructed

to calculate its number within Revelation's own historical and prophetic setting (Revelation 13:16-18).

Q: Should Christians be concerned about government corruption today?

A: Yes. Fulfilled prophecy doesn't mean governments can't become corrupt or oppressive. It means we shouldn't label every modern political development as the fulfillment of a prophecy that Scripture placed within its original prophetic time frame (Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-17).

Q: What should Christians fear if prophecy has been fulfilled?

A: Our lives shouldn't be controlled by prophetic fear. We've received a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and our confidence belongs in Christ rather than in predictions about earthly political systems (Hebrews 12:28).

Q: Can any future government defeat the kingdom of Christ?

A: No. Daniel said God's kingdom would never be destroyed, and Hebrews describes it as a kingdom that cannot be shaken (Daniel 2:44; Hebrews 12:28). Governments will come and go, but the reign of Christ remains.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

© Fulfilled Prophecies - Dan Maines.

Source Index

† Matthew 24:33-34; Luke 21:20-22; Revelation 1:1-3; Revelation 13:16-18; 1 John 2:18; Daniel 2:44; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 12:28; Revelation 22:6-7; Revelation 22:10

† Historical writers: Josephus, The Wars of the Jews; Tacitus, The Histories, Book 5; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3, Chapter 5

[Share on Facebook](#)

Links

Facebook Link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/posts/2099194047635392/>

Fulfilled Prophecies <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/>

Dan Maines

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/user/100001027365819/>

You may share this article freely without permission as long as you include credit to Dan Maines and/or a link to the Fulfilled Prophecies Group.